

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 11-14, as amended, remain herein.

Claims 6-10 and 15 remain pending, but are presently withdrawn from consideration.

1. Claims 1-5 and 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Claim 15 is presently withdrawn from consideration.

Applicants have amended the specification to recite that the control section 7 and control apparatus 130 are computers. No new matter is added. The specification at, *inter alia*, page 8, line 22 – page 10, line 24; and page 14, line 2 – page 16, line 11, describes the control section 7 and apparatus 130 as functioning as computers that direct the operation the suction nozzle, mounting head, and printed circuit board based upon the data supplied from the data section. A person of ordinary skill in this art is well familiar with the use of computers that use stored data to control the operation of mechanical components such as suction nozzles, mounting heads, and printed circuit boards. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

2. Claims 1-5 and 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yazawa et al. U.S. Patent 6,948,232. Claim 15 is presently withdrawn from consideration.

Yazawa discloses a component mounting method and apparatus that can recognize the height of various components. The components are held by nozzles. Yazawa's apparatus determines the height of the components when the component is being held by the suction nozzle. Based upon this measured height information, Yazawa's apparatus makes a decision as to where to place the component on the circuit board. Yazawa's apparatus determines the height

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of the components for itself. Yazawa's apparatus is not previously instructed on the height of the components by a controller using information previously stored on the sequence, height and position of the components as they are supplied to the apparatus. Thus, Yazawa does not disclose supplying electronic components in a predetermined sequence to suction nozzles where the suction nozzles are controlled based upon previously stored information regarding the height and position of the electrical components, as claimed by applicants. Further, with respect to claim 3, Yazawa does not disclose a plurality of suction nozzles positioned in a circular pattern, as claimed by applicants. Yazawa discloses a linear arrangement of suction nozzles only.

For all of the foregoing reasons, there is no disclosure or teaching in Yazawa that would have suggested applicants' claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in this art. Further, there is no disclosure or teaching in Yazawa that would have suggested the desirability of modifying any portions thereof effectively to anticipate or suggest applicants' claimed invention. Withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of all claims are therefore respectfully requested.

Accordingly, the application is now fully in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293 (Order No. 28951.5172). If further changes would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Parkhurst", written over a horizontal line.

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